

Serial No.: 10/684,960
Art Unit 3761

REMARKS

Remarks

Reconsideration of the objections and the rejection of the present application under 35 USC 102(b) and 35 USC 103(a) is hereby requested.

Claim 12 stands objected to because of informalities. Claim 12 has been amended to correct those informalities, thus now avoiding the insufficient antecedent basis objection. Withdrawal of such objection is requested.

Independent claim 1 stands rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by the reference to Polyakov, (U.S. Patent 5,437,602). Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of dependent claims 2 and 3, thus overcoming the Examiner's rejections thereto. Withdrawal of such rejection to independent claim 1 is earnestly solicited. The independent claim 1 is now believed allowable. Those claims depending from now deemed allowable independent claim 1 are hence themselves believed allowable as well. Claims dependent upon an allowable independent claim are thus themselves allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of the remaining dependent claims is earnestly solicited.

Claim 3 and claim 9 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Polyakov in view of the reference to Chandler (U.S.

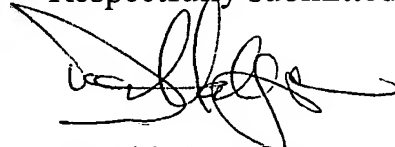
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Patent 5,830,180). Claims 3 has been cancelled, and thus avoids the rejection thereof under 35 USC 103. Claim 9 is dependent upon a deemed allowable independent claim 1, and is thus deemed allowable itself. Withdrawal of the rejection of the rejected claims under 35 USC 102 and 35 USC 103 is thus earnestly solicited.

Passage of the present application to allowance is thus requested. Should the Examiner believe that any issue remains unresolved, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned, for a discussion of same.

Respectfully submitted,



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